

THE U.S. EMBASSY'S REPORT (FROM TOKYO)
ON THE CHANGKUFENG INCIDENT, AUGUST 4, 1938.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM Tokyo

Dated August 4, 1938
Rec'd 10:06 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

August 4, 6 p.m.

Embassy's August 2, 6 p.m., Soviet border clash.

One. The featuring by the press of reports on the Soviet border incident is running a poor second to reports on the advance towards Hankow. Systematic and effective use is being made of Domei reports from each important capital to the effect that dominant opinion at such capital does not expect the incident to develop into war. Particular interest attaches to reports that Moscow is not excited and that the Soviet press appears to be belittling the incident. At the same time Japanese army releases purporting to be simply factual accounts are currently published and they make it clear that the scale of fighting has been dangerously extensive. One release published today states that the Soviet forces in the vicinity of Changkufeng include three battalions of infantry and one mechanized brigade with more than two hundred tanks. Soviet air raids involving large numbers of planes, over points in Manchuria and Korea, continue to be affirmed.

Two. The populace shows no desire for war against the Soviet Union and appears to be calm. However, apprehension is evidenced among officials and other informed Japanese, who feel that, as it is now the Soviet's turn to move, the decision for war or peace rests with Moscow.

We learn from the Foreign Office that Litvinov is evading the Japanese Ambassador, which would seem to support press despatches from European capitals that the Soviet Government has not as yet made its decision. It was also stated at the Foreign Office that Japan will, whatever the consequences, tolerate no violation of the frontier. Nevertheless, there appears to be moderate optimism that war will not eventuate.

Three. As there is available in Tokyo no information from sources other than Japanese, we are in no position to decide whether we wish to modify our views on Soviet-Japanese relations expressed in our despatch 2822 of March 18 and in other reports.

It

It would appear, however, that the Soviet forces have, by moving into an area the ownership of which has been for some time in controversy, initiated this dangerous situation. Whether the motive was to divert Japanese forces from operation against China, as has been suggested, or some other, the Soviets have apparently precipitated a situation which may become impossible either for the Soviet Union or Japan to control.

Repeated to Deiring for Johnson.

GREW

No. 9601

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

I Certify That the document hereunto annexed is a true copy from the files of this Department.

In testimony whereof, I, George C. Marshall,

Secretary of State, have hereunto caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed and my name subscribed by the Acting Authentication Officer of the said Department, at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, this twenty-third

day of January, 1947.

/s/ George C. Marshall
Secretary of State.

By /s/ B. E. Cash
Acting Authentication Officer,
Department of State.

張鼓峯事件（國民大會館事件）報文

奉電

一九三八年八月四日附

東京發

一九三八年八月四日附

午第十一时六分發信

國務長官電

八月四日午後六時

八月四日午後六時大德館電

八月四日國務長官電

以下乃上國務長官電報道，新方總裁據漢口通報，報道日本
方面之暴行，主要在首都八三件，戰事之發展不外
上思不及下，意在以軍事為主，日本當日之敵，此等都可謂同盟
之組織的、効果的、使用的。又日本之擴大侵華之極大。

以下各城之事件，小者見于上海，大者見于北平，報道之將
開心細，同时二日午後軍，公教，軍，警察，究竟未有，當時
發表也未有，戰鬥，機械危險，並大半未有，但未有，

今日，公教，張鼓峯附近，軍，警察，機械化部隊，軍團
及戰車三百以上，有此之云。又，前，軍，機械化部隊，軍團
朝鮮各地，側面襲擊，引領空軍，空襲之，而未有。

二、國民政府，軍事，欲之，平靜，而未有。然，空襲甚，已
情報，日本人，聞之，疑，想，見，空襲，被，空襲，今度，以，不
好，打，番，和戰，決定，明天，二十九日，空襲，不

思，而，居，此。

No. 1

16.2

Adac3-9
Sep 15-5
Nan
Japan
1937
1. 改河、首都ヨリ、新聞電報裏付レバ、
清兵、之ニシテ工政局、木ノ決定ヲシテ居ト
被之、外務省ヲリトナフ。日本人民ヲ避テ居ト
境侵犯、許ムレシトラウト之言アリ。以シ戰爭
ニシテ、外務省アヘ又日本ハ、結果、如何トスアリ。國
三、東京本チハ日本側汉前、出所ヨリ、情報報が近
ヘタ日ノノ内保=開ノル我之見解ヲ吸滅シタモ、
トウクノ決定スル地位ハナ。然ニソレ軍ハ從来
所屬ノ問題トナリ居タ地域ニハ、遂ニ危険情
勢ヲ起シテツニ更ニ變化ル。其勢機傳ハル也、
日本軍ヲ中國ニ對応作戦タラ車雲ニサセルアル又
ハ其、他ヨリアルニモ、少レ斯ム、日本ノジモガ
抑ヘ功トナウニタルカモ知レナリ情勢ヲ明キ
ニ激化シテアリ。北平ヨリスニ輸電セリ。

№.3

Doc #1549

廿九二〇年五月

米合衆国国务院

本大書ヲ閱スル各位ニ敬意ヲ表ス

余、茲ニ添付セラシム文書が事省、織込ミ、真正に
實ト証明ス

右証據トニ國務長官タル余ニヨリ、二
〇一九年一月二十日、ニニ市國
務省証明官代理ヲミテ同省、官印ヲ押捺
シ余、姓名ヲ記入セメタリ

國務長官
國務省証明官代理

